Whitehall Ms Sept 29th 182[illegible]

Vol IV

Dear Mother

As a favorable opportunity is presented of sending almost to you, I cheerfully spend a few moments this evening in conversing with you. The night after I left home I spent at Mr Beaches - this conveyed me to Whitehall in the morning, where I found a passage to M---- with Mr Mathews free from expense. Thus in the kindness of friends I was led to view and admire the goodness of Providence. A hour after I arrived I received a letter from Dea Harris of L---- it was indeed an friendly letter - he expressed great anxiety that I should spend the winter among them. He writes "we have not yet had our school meeting, but are soon to have one and I make no doubt but it will be the unanimous voice that you should come - we have one of the best of Ministers - we have a fine house - a brick house intended for our school this winter, but eventually for an Academy &c" - and then closes "I hope I shall soon see you and converse with you again face to face." He wished me to write immediately and state the prospects of my going - I wrote - but before my letter got time to get there I received another from the Committee, offering me the wages I had last winter, expressing an earnest desire that I should accede. I have concluded to go, and have sent them word to the same effect, and have likewise written for a school for Sheldon in the same place, and shall think myself too happy if it is so ordered that we both go together - it is uncertain. If he goes, he will go for the same price. we shall know in three or four weeks. I hesitated about going at first - but society seemed to be pleasing, families and intercourse threw its influence into the scale so sweetly -

that I was compelled to go. I hope I shall injure myself well and be enabled to do much good. I have such good news. There is a revival in Whitehall. The few moments I tarried there I received impressions which I hope not easily to forget. I saw Mary Steele — she commenced with me with tears in her eyes — her words seemed to flow from a heart humbled in the dust — but full of gratitude & love. When I arrived at Col there seemed to be an unusual solemnity hanging about the place. Our first meeting was very solemn and well attended. The brethren began to love each other better and to speak to each other oftener about the great subject which ought to lie nearest our hearts. Our meeting last Saturday evening was better attended than any since I have been a member of the Institution — There are some unpenitent sinners who begin to tremble in view of eternal scenes but we are not yet as a body of Christians sufficiently anxious to welcome the Lord here. In Cambridge about 6 miles the Lord is giving energy and effect to his truth. The revival is very interesting — the last I heard 20 were rejoicing in hope — "the fairest of them, in the language of Mr Buchanan, are the tallest cedars & the straightest oaks". We feel indeed that the Lord is near — pray for us that we may prepare our hearts to receive the King of Kings & that we may not hinder his blessing by coldness and indifference. I shall expect to hear from you soon — I shall be glad to have my cloth sent on as soon as it is done. It would be better, then to put on a paper if A. C. Preston Middlebury were marked on a piece of cloth and sewed on to the wrapper. There would be no danger then of its getting off which there will be if merely a paper is put on.

My health is good at present. I have had a very hard cold — but went out to see Mrs Denny — she gave me some medicine and I am now quite smooth. She is with Quite a good Mother. Pardon this scrawl for I have written upon the gallop as you must have already supposed. Dear Jane Love A. Preston

the number of converts in the Village I know nothing of. I cannot say I presume no one pretends to count them. The Female Seminary has experienced and is experiencing richly of the Divine blessing. I know many there are hopeful subjects of the work. I do not know many in the College. I should have determined hopes and the work is generally prevalent throughout the town. All classes and descriptions of persons know the power of the Lord. The work in College has been and is more of a more powerful and interesting character than was ever known there before. For two days and three nights last week there were eleven hopeful conversions such as a sense of the presence of the God I never had before - in some instances. sinners who to appearance were utterly opposed and day knew their state. Paul as it were Like Saul struck prostrate to the ground and the next day it has been said of him "Behold thy praying" there are many at present do hopeful conversions in College - there are thirteen in my class besides those who I hope they know for the Saviour. Sheldon has come out decided - He is engaged with all his powers in this blessed work. He cannot absent to particulars - the most influential in College we trust have already enlisted on the Lords side - But we feel as though we could give up any of our dear class-mates and fellow students - the voice of prayer is unceasingly ascending for their salvation and we do feel that God is about to convert them all - the very atmosphere we breath seems to be full of God. Oh how did you know that God hears prayer! I never felt it. I think till very lately. We know specific objects of prayer and in many instances God has heard and answered while we were yet speaking. Oh what a faithful God! Oh what a Blessed Saviour! How can I suffer entirely possess Him! ——— I have just been interrupted a few moments to unite with Curtis and Sheldon and one or two other class-mates, in praying for an anxious sinner in the Junior Class. Oh what a soul stirring season! While we were praying for him his distress seemed to be greater than he could bear. His agony was such that we could hardly be sufficiently composed to convey audibly this cry to God. But we could Lord help and I hope God heard our cry. Often we had been praying for him before we were aware of it, he struggled to give himself to God. It was enough to melt a heart of stone!

This person died a few days since was a proud and
Pelliew sinner - he is considered the first scholar in the
town he seemed determined to treat the subject of religion
if not with contempt - with total neglect - but now he is
rejoicing in his Saviour - I might mention other instances
very interesting that I have not time or room. I expect
to see you soon and then my Mother I will sit down
with you like a little child and a sanctified Son and
tell you all about it: I will not inquire now much about
Rupert - I tremble when I look that way but I am Glorious
by Believe

there might be a glorious revival there in six weeks of
Christians meantime and as I believe I am now writing to
an. the means which have been blessed in bringing about this
revival are in particular prayer and pressing upon sinners the
duty of making an immediate by the ground of Jesus. These means
the Lord has blessed and is continuing to bless in College
in which is "talk little - pray better - pray much."
I want very much to write to Esther but I can't now -
I hope she is growing stronger and stronger in the faith
Give Love to all.

Yours &c. W. R. Prentice